JAN 1 5 1964

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

GANG REPORTED FORCING OUT REP. LIBONATI

The Chicago Sun-Times-Post-Dispatch Special Dispatch Copyright, 1964

CHICAGO, Jan. 15 — Cosa Nostra gansters have ordered the retirement of a United States representative, the Sun-Times has learned.

The gang chief who ordered the retirement of Representative Roland V. Libonati (Dem.), Illinois, was identified by Department of Justice sources as Momo Salvatore (Moe) Giancana, boss of Chicago's Cosa Nostra brotherhood.

The decision to force Libonati, to retire was made by Giancana more than a year ago, it was learned, but the precise cause was not disclosed.

Libonati announced yesterday that he might not seek a fifth term. He gave the illness of his wife, Jeanette, and his desire to "be with my people here more" as the reason for his probable decision.

Government sources said, however, that a political power play by Giancana is forcing Libonatiinto retirement.

Libonati, self-proclaimed friend of such prohibition era gansters as Al Capone, fell into disfavor with Giancana more than 14 months ago, sources said.

In effect, it was disclosed, Giancana dropped two politicians with one order in November, 1962. He rejected Libonati and at the same time dictated the resignation of former Chicago: Alderman John D'Arco.

At Giancana's edict, D'Arco resigned from the City Council in late 1962.

An unexpected uproar over the D'Arco action caused the gang to grant Libonati a grace period in which he continued to serve as Representative, it was learned. The grace period apparently

ended yesterday with Libonati's announcement.

To Government investigators, Giancana's influence over Libonati was indicated by the fact that the ganster's son-in-law, Anthony Tisci, remained on Libonati's payroll despite the multiple federal investigation of Giancana's Cosa Nostra command.